

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of transmitting data in bursts in a communications network, the method comprising:~~
  - providing data for transmission;
  - providing forward error correction (~~FEC~~) data for said data;
  - forming a first set of bursts comprising transmission data; and
  - forming a second set of bursts comprising ~~FEC~~forward error correction data.
2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, comprising:
  - transmitting said first set of bursts via a first channel, and
  - transmitting said second set of bursts via a second, different channel.
3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, comprising:
  - providing a first parameter for indicating a timing offset between a first, earlier burst comprising at least some of said transmission data and a second, later burst comprising further transmission data;
  - providing a second parameter for indicating a timing offset between a third, earlier burst comprising at least some of said ~~FEC~~forward error correction data and a fourth, later burst comprising further ~~FEC~~forward error correction data;
  - forming said first burst including said first timing parameter and
  - forming said third burst including said second timing parameter.
4. (Original) A method according to claim 3, wherein:
  - said at least some of said transmission data comprises some of said transmission data; and
  - said further transmission data comprises some more of said transmission data.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 3, wherein:  
said at least some of said transmission data comprises all of said transmission data; and  
said further transmission data comprises additionally provided transmission data.
6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 3, comprising:  
said at least some of said ~~FEC~~forward error correction data comprises some of said ~~FEC~~forward error correction data; and  
said further ~~FEC~~forward error correction data comprises some more of said ~~FEC~~forward error correction data.
7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 3, comprising:  
said at least some of said ~~FEC~~forward error correction data comprises all of said ~~FEC~~forward error correction data; and  
said further ~~FEC~~forward error correction data comprises some additionally provided ~~FEC~~forward error correction data.
8. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3, comprising:  
dividing said first burst between a first set of packets;  
identifying each of said first set of packets with a first identity;  
dividing said third burst between a second set of packets; and  
identifying each of said second set of packets with a second identity.
9. (Original) A method according to claim 8, wherein said first and second identities are the same.
10. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3, comprising:  
dividing said second burst between a third set of packets; wherein providing said first timing parameter comprises:  
specifying a time until a start of a first one of said third set of packets.

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3, comprising:  
dividing said fourth burst between a fourth set of packets; wherein providing  
said second timing parameter comprises:  
specifying a time until a start of a first one of said fourth set of packets.
12. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3, comprising:  
preparing service information; and  
including said second identify in said service information.
13. (Original) A method according to claim 12, comprising:  
including said second identity in a descriptor; and  
including said descriptor in a table forming part of said service information.
14. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3, wherein said  
transmission data comprises a plurality of data packets, and said method comprises:  
placing at least some of data packets in respective ones of a first set of  
sections.
15. (Original) A method according to claim 14, comprising:  
including said first timing parameter in at least one of said first set of  
sections.
16. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 14, comprising:  
calculating a timing parameter for each section based on said first timing  
parameter and  
including a respective timing parameter in each of said first set of sections.
17. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 3, wherein said  
~~FEC~~forward error correction data comprises a plurality of data packets, and said  
method comprises:  
placing at least some of data packets in respective ones of a second set of  
sections.

18. (Original) A method according to claim 17, comprising:  
including said second timing parameter in at least one of said second set of sections.
19. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 17, comprising:  
calculating a timing parameter for each section based on said second timing parameter and  
including a respective timing parameter in each one of said second set of sections.
20. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, comprising:  
providing a first parameter for identifying a burst comprising at least some of said transmission data;  
providing a second parameter for identifying at least one burst comprising ~~FEC~~forward error correction associated with said at least some of said transmission data;  
forming a first burst including said first identifying parameter and  
forming a second burst including said second identifying parameter.
21. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, comprising:  
labelling at least one burst of said first set of bursts with an identifier; and  
labelling at least one burst of said second set of bursts with a corresponding identifier.
22. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein transmitting data is internet protocol datacasting over a digital broadcasting network.
23. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium storing a computer program comprising computer program instructions for causing ~~data processing means~~a processor  
to provide data for transmission;

to provide forward error correction (~~FEC~~) data for said data;  
to form a first set of bursts comprising transmission data; and  
to form a second set of bursts comprising ~~FEC~~forward error correction data.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) ~~A system of transmitting data in bursts in a communications network~~ comprising:  
providing data for transmission;  
providing forward error correction (~~FEC~~)forward error correction data for said data;  
forming a first set of bursts comprising transmission data; and  
forming a second set of bursts comprising ~~FEC~~forward error correction data.

26. (Currently Amended) ~~A network element~~Apparatus, comprising a processor configured:  
~~means for providing to provide~~ data for transmission;  
~~means for providing to provide~~ forward error correction (~~FEC~~) data for said data;  
~~means for forming to form~~ a first set of bursts comprising transmission data;  
and  
~~means for forming to form~~ a second set of bursts comprising ~~FEC~~forward error correction data.

27. (Currently Amended) ~~A multiprotocol encapsulator~~Apparatus, comprising:  
an input for providing data for transmission;  
a processor for providing forward error correction (~~FEC~~) data for said data;  
a processor for forming a first set of bursts comprising transmission data and  
a processor for forming a second set of bursts comprising ~~FEC~~forward error correction data.

28. (Currently Amended) ~~A terminal for receiving data in bursts from a communications network~~Apparatus, comprising a processor configured:  
~~means for receiving~~to receive a first set of bursts comprising transmission data and  
~~means for receiving~~to receive a second set of bursts comprising forward error correction (FEC) data for said transmission data.